

	UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL		SECRET
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT (O/DCI)

Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	DD/RM				
4	DD/NFA				
5	DD/CT				
6	DD/A				
7	DD/O				
8	DD/S&T				
9	GC				
10	LC	X			
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/PA		X		
14	D/EEO				
15	D/Pers				
16	AO/DCI				
17	C/IPS				
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SUSPENSE DATE:

Remarks:

D/ Executive Secretary
25 September 1978

Date

STAT

HENRY J. HYDE
6TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
BANKING, FINANCE AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

1206 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4561

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

Executive Registry

78-6393

September 21, 1978

OLC # 78-5164/c

Admiral Stansfield Turner
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

At the request of my constituent,
Mrs. Betty 'Laine Larsen, I am forwarding
the enclosed letter she has written you.

Very truly yours,


Henry J. Hyde

HJH:jkf
Enc.

Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia

Gentlemen:

I have enclosed this with my letter to
Henry Hyde, my congressman, and asked
him to inter-office it to you in order
to save postage.

Betty Laine Larsen (Mrs.)

[REDACTED]
September 15, 1978

STA

Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Langley, Virginia

Gentlemen:

Enclosed cc of my letter to the CHICAGO TRIBUNE,
together with a copy of columnist Bob Wiedrich's
September 14 masterpiece, is self-explanatory.

Be assured I am sincere.

Gratefully,

Betty Laine Larsen (Mrs.)
Betty 'Laine Larsen (Mrs.)

STA

Encl. (2)

cc: Bib Wiedrich, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

September 14, 1978

Approved For Release 2004/09/03 : CIA-RDP81M00980R001700070007-0

Letters to the Editor
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
435 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Gentlemen:

I have asked Mr. Wiedrich's office to afford me several extra copies of his September 14 column which I, in turn, will forward to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation as well as to Henry Hyde, my congressman, and President Carter; I want to make sure they see it.

It concerns legislation which will take effect as soon as Carter signs it giving this nation's various intelligence agencies a "Bill of rights," as Wiedrich so aptly dubbed it.

Representative Morgan Murphy, Jr., (D., Ill.) deserves kudos too, for Wiedrich quotes him as stating that "because of the controversy surrounding previous abuses, valuable intelligence has gone uncollected; agents have been reluctant to expose themselves to the threat of later criminal prosecution."

Through this letter I urge concerned Americans to make a concerted effort to write President Carter urging him to sign this bill; it has already received congressional approval by a 246 to 128 margin.

These men are not KGB agents; they are alert, dedicated vigilantes, not vigilantes, ever on the lookout for the safety, wellbeing, and very survival of our beloved nation in the face of open, rampant, unpunished actions bordering on treason. I, for one, thank Almighty God for their sacrifices and sleep better because of their eternal vigilance, which our forefathers recognized as the price of eternal freedom.

Gratefully,

Betty 'Laine Larsen (Mrs.)

cc: Director, Central Intelligence Agency ✓
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Cong. Henry Hyde (Rep., Ill.) -
Cong. Morgan Murphy, Jr. (Dem., Ill.)
Bob Wiedrich, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CARTER

Encl. (1) Bob Wiedrich's Sept. 14, 1978 column

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Bob Wiedrich

Intelligence agents to get 'bill of rights'



THE NATION'S intelligence agents soon will have protection against being jailed later for acts once considered on the square.

Assuming the House and Senate get their act together, President Carter will be asked to sign a bill providing court-ordered safeguards for both intelligence gatherers and American citizens.

Then the agents charged with monitoring the affairs of foreign spies and their lackeys in the United States no longer will have to fear getting indicted a decade down the road for activities they thought had been presidentially authorized.

With little fanfare, considering the subject matter, the House passed the Foreign Intelligence Electronic Surveillance Act Sept. 7 by a vote of 246 to 128.

Because of differences with a similar Senate bill approved last April by a 95 to 1 vote, the legislation now goes to a joint congressional conference committee.

AND ASSUMING the minor differences can be ironed out, President Carter should have the bill on his desk by the end of the month.

Thus, if Carter signs the legislation, intelligence operatives wiretapping and bugging foreign espionage agents and their American consorts will do so with the legal protection of court-ordered warrants.

That will assure the agents that they are acting under the full color of American law. And it will protect American citizens from having their right to privacy violated for political purposes under the guise of national security.

That should satisfy all objections to electronic surveillance techniques of the past, and CIA and FBI agents responsible for combating foreign spies can get on with their business.

"Because of the controversy surrounding previous abuses, valuable intelligence has been going uncollected," Rep. Morgan Murphy Jr. [D., Ill.] said. "Agents have been reluctant to expose themselves to the threat of later criminal prosecution."

"FURTHER, COMMON carriers like the Bell Telephone System and the American Telegraph & Telephone Co. have been refusing to cooperate with agents seeking to use their facilities for electronic surveillance, because of the same fear."

"With this legislation, the United States will have for the first time in its history statutory standards covering foreign intelligence-gathering and surveillance within the domestic borders of the country."

Murphy, chairman of a House Intelligence Subcommittee that drew up the bill, managed the legislation on the House floor. He received congratulatory phone calls from the White House, Atty.

Gen. Griffin Bell, and CIA Director Stansfield Turner, all of whom supported the bill.

But the greatest accolade heard came from an American intelligence man, who declared: "All of us have been sitting around worrying what vehicle would be used to nail this generation of intelligence agents since the last batch was crucified for serving their country."

"Electronic surveillance tools are vital because they provide pure, first-hand intelligence information no other source can give you."

"THE STUFF IS straight from the horse's mouth, uncolored by a third party. It has not been subjected to outside interpretation as often is the case with an informant."

"We need it for the nation's defense. It is fundamental. We have to play by the rules. The other side doesn't. And foreign spies have been raping this country of its secrets because we couldn't move for fear of going to jail."

During the subcommittee hearings, Atty. Gen. Bell pointed out that 60 past and present intelligence agents face possible disciplinary action or civil suits for illegal wiretaps.

Former Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray and two other former high-ranking bureau officials are under indictment for similar acts.

None of these events would have occurred, Bell told the subcommittee, had the new legislation been in force.

Under the bill, the government will be required to obtain a federal-court-ordered search warrant before conducting a surveillance that would directly or indirectly involve an American citizen.

THE STANDARD of proof in such proceedings will be similar to that required in obtaining a warrant in a criminal case.

However, in cases involving foreign nationals—espionage agents of foreign countries—a warrant also will be required, but the standards of probable cause will be less strict.

No warrants will be required for intelligence agents to monitor communications exclusively between foreign powers and their embassies in the United States.

In all cases, the warrants also will protect U.S. agents from being later charged with illegal entry while installing their electronic monitoring devices.

The House bill had the support of the White House, the American Bar Association, and the American Civil Liberties Union, plus the intelligence agencies themselves.

It was long overdue. And hopefully, President Carter will soon sign the legislation once Congress reconciles the differences between the House and Senate versions.